

REMARKS

In an Office Action mailed on February 18, 2005, claims 1-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph and 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; and claims 1-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over alleged Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (herein called "AAPA") in view of Price.

For purposes of more positively reciting certain aspects of the invention, independent claims 1, 11 and 19 have been amended to recite that in response to the predetermined sleep state, a signal is driven to cause a component to conduct a current in response to a subsequent back-driven voltage on the supply voltage plane to restrict a magnitude of the voltage. Additionally, as amended, the claims recite that in response to the computer being in a predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state, the signal is removed.

Contrary to the limitations of amended independent claims 1, 11 and 19, Price fails to teach or suggest driving a signal to cause a component to conduct a current in response to a back-driven voltage. More specifically, the pull-down circuits of Price are directed to a computer system that has been turned off. Thus, there is no suggestion or motivation to incorporate any of Price's pull-down circuits into a system that has a non-power down sleep state (as an example) because none of these pull-down circuits would function in the manner that is now specifically recited in the independent claims. As such, the hypothetical combination of the alleged AAPA and Price fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness for either independent claim 1, 11 or 19.

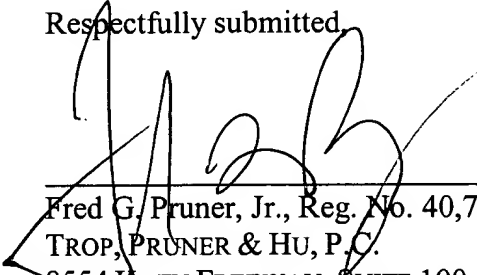
Regarding the §§ 101 and 112 rejections, these rejections have been overcome for at least the reason that the previous misstatement in the claims has been corrected to appropriately state that the current is present in response to the back-driven voltage. Embodiments of independent claims 1, 11 and 19 may be found, for example, in Fig. 2 and the corresponding text of the specification. Of course, other embodiments of the inventions that are set forth in independent claims 1, 11 and 19 are envisioned and are within the scope of these claims. Thus, withdrawal of the §§ 101 and 112 rejections of claims 1-34 is requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the §§ 101, 103 and 112 rejections and a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance are requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (ITL.0577US).

Respectfully submitted,

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